



THE JEWISH DAILY FORWARD

שער זהב

CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV
SAN FRANCISCO

Tamuz/Av/Elul 5767
July/August 2007

WHAT'S UP AT SHA'AR ZAHAV!

CELEBRATE CSZ'S 30TH!

July 6, 6:30 pm

The weekend of July 6 marks the anniversary of CSZ's first service, so we're continuing our 30th anniversary celebration with a potluck dinner and a special showing of the video created for CSZ's 18th anniversary, "18/10 Commemorative Video," followed by a special Shabbat service. Bring a vegetarian salad or side dish to share; we'll supply a main course and dessert.

BUILDING SHABBAT COMMUNITY SATURDAY LUNCH, SONG AND STUDY

Beginning in July, join CSZ in extending our weekly Shabbat celebration. After **10:00 am Shacharit services** each week, Kiddush and a **light lunch** will now be provided, followed by **community singing** of *zmirot* (joyful songs for the Shabbat table.) At about 12:30 pm, we will continue with study of Torah, Haftarah, and diverse related texts. Bring your queer eye to Torah each week!

COME SING WITH THE CSZ CHOIR Mondays 7:00-9:00 pm

Calling all who love to sing!! CSZ will have a choir to sing this year for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rehearsals will be Monday evenings 7:00-9:00 pm, from **July 9th** through September 17th, in the sanctuary. The only requirement to join the choir is your commitment to being at the rehearsals and the services. For more information, contact Rabbinical Intern Reuben Zellman: reuben@shaarzahav.org, (415) 861-6932 ext. 306.

TISHA B'AV SERVICE July 23, 6:30 pm

Tisha B'Av is the annual day of mourning across the Jewish world, commemorating episodes of destruction and renewal from ancient to modern times, and helping us to remember and explore Jewish approaches to catastrophe, renewal and hope. Join us for a special Monday night Ma'ariv service.

"There's More!" continued on pg 4

TRANSGENDER CELEBRATION SHABBAT A WILD SUCCESS!

by Leo Hill

The excited attendance at CSZ's first Trans Shabbat Celebration exceeded all expectations. On June 1st and 2nd, Sha'ar Zahav overflowed with folks young and old, participating in the festivities highlighting the Trans community at CSZ and beyond. As far as we know, this was the first time ever that a synagogue has devoted a Shabbaton to exploring trans issues and celebrating the transgender community.

The idea for Trans Celebration Shabbat was created by CSZ's Trans, Intersex, Gender-Queer and Allies Programming Committee (TIGQA). It was conceived after CSZ's second annual observance at Shabbat services of the November 20th Trans Day of Remembrance. Trans Day of Remembrance was set aside in 1999 as an annual day to remember the many trans people who are the victims of hate crimes. The TIGQA committee felt that, in addition to our continued acknowledgment of the Day of Remembrance, that it was time to create a celebratory transgender holiday! We wanted to create an opportunity to explore the intersections of trans issues and Judaism, and celebrate the flourishing fabulousness of gender-queer communities and people.

Let the Celebration begin! Friday night services were preceded by a showing of CSZ member Martin Rawlings-Fein's documentary film, *Clocked: An Oral History*. The Oneg Room was packed with a standing room only crowd during the movie and the excited discussion that followed.

Friday's spirited and musical services were led by Rabbi Angel, Reuben Zellman and Chanah Harei-Orr, and included a drash by CSZ member and transgender journalist Ina Turpen Fried.



Saturday began with Torah Study, exploring the teachings of *parashat B'ha'alotcha* and their relevance to gender-queer experience. Shabbat morning services were led by Ben Lunine, Ora Prochovnick and Reuben Zellman. Our usual Shabbat liturgy was supplemented with Hallel and other texts chosen for Trans Celebration. After lunch, it was off to the learning sessions! And whether it was from the food rush or the subject matter, the air literally crackled with energy from the workshop attendees. The shul buzzed with energy throughout the day and even during cleanup. (This reporter could not relax for hours afterwards and needed beer and dancing to calm down.)

The afternoon offered a total of nine learning sessions to choose from exploring gender issues, trans community and Judaism. Joss Eldredge, Rabbi Angel, AJ Turpen Fried and CSZ's New Rituals Subcommittee led a workshop on developing new Jewish rituals for our trans and gender-queer communities.

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NURTURING THE WHOLE PERSON

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel

I like to think that serving as a rabbi is like being in the health and wholeness business. People invite me to guide them in their spiritual lives, but that is not the limit of my influence. I interact with people when they have physical, emotional, and intellectual concerns as well. In fact, the doorway to a person's spiritual life is often through one of these other dimensions.

The congregational rabbinate is one of the only true generalist professions left in our society. While so many professionals are becoming more and more specialized, clergy are still given authority to look at the whole picture – one's physical well-being, the quality of one's relationships, one's values, beliefs and morals. Being a generalist can feel uncomfortable at times because we are not able to claim expertise in one slice of life. Yet as generalists, we rabbis get to care about the total well-being of our congregants.

As I plan my sabbatical, scheduled for December 2007 to May 2008, I am considering how best to nurture my own well-being in each of the four dimensions.

In becoming a better steward of the gift of my body, I plan to exercise everyday. Some of my favorite ways to get fresh air and move my bones include hiking, biking, walking, yoga and definitely playing tennis. I want to become more

involved in the day-to-day routines of my family and do lots of the cooking. I know that in tending to my physical health, my light will be brighter upon my return.

In the realm of the intellect, I want to read lots of books, do some studying and a little traveling. I want to have time to make art. Emotionally, I want to take time to grow my personal relationships with my partner and daughter, my sister, and my small extended family. I want to take time to do more grief work as I integrate my mother's death and my new orphan status.

“Clergy look at
the whole picture:
physical, emotional,
intellectual and
spiritual”

Spiritually, I hope to re-establish my daily prayer practice and reconnect to my love of journaling. I hope to study Torah with a few of my favorite teachers and chevruta partners and continue deepening my experience of Shabbat.

It's exciting for me to be thinking about my sabbatical and discerning how best to nourish and replenish my body, psyche and spirit. I hope each of you will have some opportunity, be it a Sabbath, a summer vacation, or a more extended period of reflection to assess what you need to strengthen your vitality and increase your health in each of these four arenas of life.

I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for giving me this opportunity for rest and renewal. Not every congregation understands why sabbaticals are important, and I do not take this rich experience for granted. I know I need it and that it will help me continue to do my work here in the way that I want to do it – with energy, creativity and compassion.

BIKKUR CHOLIM

If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, please notify the synagogue office.

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Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism, the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Jews, and the San Francisco Organizing Project

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GREENING SHA'AR ZAHAV

Ora Prochovnick



In the words of a well known Jewish prophet, "We must be the change we wish to see in the world." Okay, that is actually a quote from Mahatma Gandhi, who inspired so many of us by his words and action. But this same passion for action is also reflected in the ancient words of our prophets and sages, as well as in the declarations of the Reform Movement's leaders. The ancient command "Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof! Justice, justice, shall you pursue!" reverberates in our ears. It is axiomatic that to be a Jew is to care about the world around us. To be engaged in the ongoing work of tikkun olam, striving to improve, heal and transform the world in which we live, is an essential part of our core identity and values as Jews.

I would like to encourage our community at Sha'ar Zahav to explore how well we are fulfilling these core Jewish aspirations. In her inspiring Yom Kippur drash at the beginning of this year, Ellie Cohen called upon us to view our obligation to respond to the environmental crisis as a religious mandate. We are heirs to a tradition of stewardship that goes back to one of the very first mitzvot found in the Torah, in Genesis, which teaches us to be partners in the ongoing work of Creation. Ellie challenged us to do our part to resist the escalating destruction of our environment and its effect on human health and livelihood. Where we are despoiling our air, land, and water, it is our sacred duty as Jews to acknowledge our God-given responsibility and take action to alleviate environmental degradation and the pain and suffering that it causes.

Our synagogue has already begun to heed this call.

- We are trying to rely less on paper, by utilizing email rather than snail mail when possible, and by using recycled paper and copying double-sided.
- Signs posted around the building gently remind congregants to turn off lights when a room is not in use.

- Clearly labeled containers make it easy and convenient for us to recycle and compost, reducing our ecological footprint.
- A bike rack is located in front of our building, providing a convenient alternative for members seeking to reduce carbon dioxide emissions as they travel to shul.
- We have begun to serve Interfaith Free Trade Coffee at all Sha'ar Zahav onegs and events. This high quality, good tasting coffee is purchased by the Thanksgiving Coffee Company from a Ugandan collective which is jointly run by Jews, Christians and Muslims. In addition to a fair payment for the coffee beans, the African cooperative also receives a \$1 rebate from the sale of every package. If you would like to buy this coffee for yourself or be involved in marketing it to congregants, please contact our Administrator, Regina Wurst, at regina@shaarzahav.org.

I want to express our gratitude to Greg Lawrence, who has taken the lead in implementing many of these measures, and has been a beacon ever since he joined our staff, encouraging us to remain mindful of our goal of "greening" the shul.

Although we are justifiably proud of the steps we have already taken, there is so much more that Congregation Sha'ar Zahav could and should be doing. There are many changes we could implement to further reduce our environmental footprint. Some, such as the solar panel initiative which Ellie Cohen urged us to pursue in her Yom Kippur drash, would need an investment of significant time and resources, including large expenditures of money which we would have to raise.

Other changes would make a large impact with only a small investment. For example, we could install a solar-powered Ner Tamid, use compostable cups and utensils, and use recycled paper for school supplies.

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VA'AD MEMBERS

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each month—all welcome!

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WHAT'S UP AT SHA'AR ZAHAV!

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HEALTH AND HEALING AT SHA'AR ZAHAV

Randy Weled, MFT

Sha'ar Zahav's counselor-in-residence

CSZ and Jewish Family and Children's Services have arranged for Randy Weled, a licensed therapist, to be able to provide short-term help to CSZ members who are dealing with such issues as:

- Relationship problems
- Addictions of any kind
- End of life counseling or support
- Grief for loss of a loved one and/or multiple losses
- Community conflict
- Job related issues
- Dealing with cultural oppression such as anti-Semitism, homophobia, sexism, sizism, etc.

Any member of the synagogue has access to Randy for three sessions, subject to availability, at which time he will make the necessary referrals for further assistance, if needed. He is available to talk by phone for quick assistance.

You may reach him at (415) 282-1962 or email him at wolf2weled@yahoo.com

Bikkur Cholim:

It's Not Just for Committees

It is a central precept in Judaism to be there for others in their time of need, and it is in fact a large part of what a caring community is all about. Here at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, we are working at coordinating our efforts in *bikkur cholim*, caring for those who are faced with illness, and *gemilut chasadim*, loving acts of kindness.

All are welcome to join the Bikkur Cholim Committee, but you need not be a committee member to have opportunities to perform these mitzvot. The Committee is engaged in a plan to survey the interests and abilities of all congregation members to help out other members with visits, food, practical chores, spiritual support, etc. We're also working to divide members into neighborhoods, so we can match people's needs with the abilities of their neighbors.

Contact Alan Foss for more information. 415-515-9011 or MuchosLibros@aol.com

Grief & Growing: A healing weekend for bereaved individuals and families September 7-9, 2007 at Camp Tawonga

This is a professionally guided program for children, teens, adults, extended families, and friends who are experiencing grief from recent or past losses in their life. Take time away from the demands of your busy life at home to reflect and renew in a supportive Jewish environment. For more information and a brochure, call Bay Area Jewish Healing Center at 415-750-4197, or visit www.jewishhealingcenter.org

Grief&Growing is cosponsored by Bay Area Jewish Healing Center*, the Bureau of Jewish Education*, Camp Tawonga*, and Sinai Memorial Chapel.

*Beneficiaries of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome!

Leo Hill

The Farran-Tukachinsky Family;

Brian Tukachinsky,

Donna Farran-Tukachinsky,

and their one year old, Bria.

Stephanie Golden

Steve Berlin and Ed Schultz

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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Some changes could be made right now, with no investment at all but our creativity and energy. We could choose to invest the shul's money in socially-responsible funds. We could create permanent name tags for members instead of the disposable ones we use. We could send out thank you's and *yahrzeit* reminders by email, greatly reducing our use of paper.

Some of these changes might not make sense for us. For example, the Va'ad was concerned that *yahrzeit* notifications should remain on paper because of the emotions they naturally evoke.

I would like to hear from you about which of these changes would make sense for us. Would you be comfortable with receiving *yahrzeit* and/or donation acknowledgment letters by email? Would you approve investing the shul's money

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When we were young, we were told:

**Don't trust
anyone over 30!**

Funny how some things change.

Happy 30th, CSZ!

Alex Ingersoll and Martin Tannenbaum

ORGANIZING FOR HEALTH CARE

A new movement is afoot in the progressive world to organize for social justice through religious institutions. That work is being done in San Francisco through the Jewish FundS for Justice Congregation-Based Initiative and through the San Francisco Organizing Project (SFOP), which is tied to parent organization PICO California.

Sha'ar Zahav was the first Jewish congregation in San Francisco to get involved with the SFOP, primarily around health care organizing. The next few months bring big opportunities for CSZ to continue expanding health care access, and to strengthen its internal bonds through the work of the CSZ-SFOP Local Organizing Committee. Following the push to create universal health care access in San Francisco a year ago, there is now a serious debate taking place at the state level over how to create universal health care coverage. The CSZ LOC has volunteered to lead SFOP's citywide efforts to take action on this issue, giving

Sha'ar Zahav the opportunity to insert its values into the debate and influence its outcome for the better.

On Monday, June 18, we hosted a health care policy education workshop at SFOP's citywide meeting. This meeting was part of our effort to gear up for a town hall event in late July where we will invite our legislators, and representatives of the officials who are proposing these bills – as well as officials working on San Francisco's initiative and children's health care coverage expansion at a national level – to respond to our community's priorities. Between the two events, we will meet with legislators and experts to help us define our priorities and plan the Town Hall. We encourage CSZ members to participate in all of these events to help craft our work, to represent the shul, and to help move forward this important opportunity.

Following the Town Hall in late July, the LOC will spearhead a listening campaign during Elul to give CSZ members the

opportunity to build relationships and – in Elul's spirit of hearing the call of the shofar and awakening to reality and our consciences – to truly hear each other. This will strengthen our community and inform the LOC's work going forward. Stay tuned for details as Elul approaches.

Last year, we called on officials to commit to four core priorities: to enact coverage as soon as possible, to create a comprehensive plan, to share the costs fairly, and to continue working for universal coverage at a state and national level. We now have an opportunity to use our influence to fulfill our fourth priority.

This is an exciting time. Change may be on the horizon. Let us be a part of making sure it is for the betterment of our world. To participate, contact Josh Weisman, josh@sfop.org or call at 415-608-2978.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

cont. from page 4

only in socially-responsible funds? Would you be willing to support using recycled paper everywhere, even if it cost us more money?

As Rabbi Angel shared with the congregation last January, she and her family have elected to dedicate the contributions made in memory of her mother to be used for specific projects that will enable Congregation Sha'ar Zahav to become more environmentally healthy, responsible and green, by creating the Shelma Angel Green Fund for the Future. The details for this Fund have not yet been determined. If you are interested in serving on an advisory task force to help work out those details, or to further explore the issues raised in this column and the "greening" of Sha'ar Zahav, please be in touch with Rabbi Angel or myself. You can reach me at president@shaarzahav.org.

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Pinat Yeladim U'mishpachah

Children and Family Corner



FAMILY CALENDAR

To find out more about these programs go to the Sha'ar Zahav website at www.shaarzahav.org/children-families.

BABY CHAVURAH

Sunday, July 15, 10:30 am

Sunday, August 19, 10:30 am

Meets at Duboce Park (Noe @ Duboce)

Bad weather: Meet at CSZ at 4 pm

An opportunity for the under 2 set to get together and bond with their future b'nei mitzvah class while their parents share tips and trials.

TOT SHABBAT

Saturday, July 21, 10:30 am

Saturday, August 18, 10:30 am

For families with children ages 2 to 5. Celebrate Shabbat through music, art, prayer and fun! For more information contact Mary Jane Eisenberg at maryjane@shaarzahav.org.

"FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!"

Friday, July 6, 6 pm

Friday, August 3, 6 pm

Bring yourselves and your favorite grown-ups and come celebrate Shabbat with us. Monthly Family Shabbat Service designed for children 0 – 6 years meets every second Friday of each month.

FAMILY KABBALAT

SHABBAT

Friday, July 20, 6:30 pm

Friday, August 17, 6:30 pm

Potluck at 6:30 pm; service follows.

Meet, eat, sing and celebrate Shabbat with CSZ families, then stay for Friday night services. All ages are welcome. Dinner is vegetarian potluck. Bring a dish to share. No RSVP is required.

INTRODUCING REBECCA WEINER!

Rebecca Weiner is the new Director of Children's and Family Education at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. She comes to us after serving as Director of Education at Temple Israel in Alameda. A Jewish educator for the past 20 years, Rebecca has an MA in Drama Therapy as well. When she is not ensuring the continuity of the Jewish people, she is a consultant and a curriculum writer. The JGF interviewed Rebecca about her vision of education at CSZ.

JGF: What's exciting to you about becoming Director of Children's and Family Education at CSZ?

RW: When you do family education with LGBT families, everyone realizes that families will be different from each other. You have chosen families vs. biological. You break down the stereotypical family of mommy/daddy/boy/girl/dog/cat. You realize that family education has to look different because families are different. That's exciting because the fact is that these kinds of differences are present in the larger community as well. In the larger community, you also have LGBT families, single families, Jews of color—you have all different kinds of family systems that have to be addressed. CSZ is doing now what all congregations should be doing.

JGF: What makes family education different when families are diverse?

RW: What LGBT education can model for Jewish education as a whole is that Tribe transcends the nuclear family. Historically, Jews have had a strong sense of the village, the chevra, the community. That broke down in America with the American focus on the nuclear family. An LGBT community breaks that nuclear family model wide open, returning Judaism to community.

When you teach kids, being able to reinforce that they are a member of a

group and have responsibility to that group is actually empowering. It is very easy in the dominant culture to be very individualistic, and it's wonderful for kids to be able to feel, "I'm part of something much bigger than just me."

JGF: It sounds like Orthodoxy in a progressive setting.

RW: My sister is Orthodox, and when I was a kid she took me to Chabad. That was formative for my sense of community. I didn't become frum, but I resonated with the culture. Kids were running around shul and everyone felt accountable.

I feel like that is true also at CSZ, that every kid is your kid. Kids from alternative families need a place where they are accepted. If you come, you belong.

JGF: How did you get into Jewish Education?

RW: My Jewish education experience growing up was so positive. It shaped my identity. Berkeley in the 1970s, where I grew up, was pretty chaotic. Jewish education gave me a sense of context. In the larger community, people are will o'wispes. For me, my consistent community has been Jewish, and I want all kids to have that connection.

JGF: You've been connected to CSZ for a long time.

RW: In the early Nineties, I was one of the first teachers at CSZ when it was on Danvers Street. I worked with Phyllis Mintzer. She was one of my most profound Jewish mentors. I felt she was a lamed vavnik—the Talmud tells us that at any given time there are 36 especially spiritually endowed people. She was one of them. Phyllis created an amazingly spiritual, joyous place. When I got the call about this position, I felt like I was coming home. I hope my work can be an homage to this educator who taught from a pure love of Judaism.

BEIT SEFER DATES TO REMEMBER

**Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer begins
Saturday September 8**

To enroll your child, or if you have

questions, contact Rebecca Wiener at Rebecca@shaarzahav.org

OUR SPIRITUAL QUEST THROUGH LOS ANGELES

*Written By Yonah Levy, Kailin Koch, Allison Schaffer, Adam Kahn, Harry Weinberg, Reuben Raff, and Zach Ruylemeyer.
Edited by Greg Lawrence*

Over the last weekend in April, seven B'nei Mitzvah students traveled to L.A. with Rabbi Angel after studying with her this past year in her Spiritual Quest class. We decided to travel down to L.A. together for a bonding experience. When we first landed in Burbank, we visited a synagogue for people recovering from substance abuse, which is relevant to our recent addiction unit of study. On Saturday we experienced a Bat Mitzvah at Wilshire Blvd. Temple. Although the service was long, we later got to cool down at Venice Beach. For dinner we went to Universal Studios City Walk and wandered around the shops. The group then returned to the hotel for our very own Havdalah, where we shared thoughts about experiencing the weekend with our various senses. Enjoying a nice night of sleep, we were rejuvenated for a fun day at Universal Studios amusement park. (YL)

The unique and awe inspiring experience that is Beit T'Shuvah is too great to tell in one sentence. Upon entering the synagogue, we were warmly and excitedly greeted by members of the congregation. Once we joined the service, a special hello – full of joyous expression – welcomed us to their community.

As the service consisted of a choir, drum, piano, and electric guitar, the night as a whole was quite musical. Many of the blessings had rhythmic twists, with R&B and Blues tones. This spectacularly musical service also included many congregants' getting up to share their life stories on numerous occasions. But no matter what their addictive substance was, whether it was heroine, alcohol, or anything in between, everyone shared a common theme; the synagogue had turned their lives around. Now this wasn't merely due to the waving of a magic wand. We found out, during a spectacular dinner between our group and two people, who were currently going through the program, that each life experience was unique and that each

of Beit T'Shuvah's patient's recovery process involved the "12 Step" program. This whole evening was an experience that none of us will ever forget! (RR)

On Saturday morning we went to Wilshire Boulevard Temple for morning services, which is where Rabbi Angel was a rabbinic intern 15 years ago! The temple was built in 1929 and the congregation has 2,600 families. The building is capable of hosting five B'nei Mitzvot at once. Along with having a cantor and a choir, there was an organist who accompanied the singers and the congregation. The sanctuary was enormous and had an ominous and awesome feel to it. Cantor Don Gurney had a beautiful voice and did an amazing duet of Sim Shalom with the Bat Mitzvah.

It was more formal than our services at CSZ, but it was interesting to observe different customs and hear new tunes for prayers. It made me appreciate the small community feel I often take for granted at CSZ. Though I liked visiting the congregation, some of us would prefer to visit a different synagogue the next time we return to the LA area. (KK)

On Saturday afternoon, after a long service, all of us were ready to expend our energy. We drove to Venice Beach to get some swimming, frisbee, and shimmying in before dinner. Upon arriving, we went to the beach and decided to go in the water, despite the freezing temperature. Zach, Yonah, and Harry even went all the way in! After we all got too cold to keep swimming, we walked down past the shops, looking at the different sites and people, and shopping for chatchkas, clothing, and such. We also learned that Venice Beach used to have a large Jewish presence, as evidenced by the two temples that were directly on the beachfront. Overall, it was a great experience. (AS)

Throughout our fun trip to Los Angeles, a lot of our time was spent in the car driving to each location. Even though

we had to spend so much time driving, the car ride aspect of the trip was very enjoyable. It was a good experience because it was filled with good, lively music, conversation, and humor. Our driving on Santa Monica Boulevard included such sights as Beverly Hills and West Hollywood, or as we called it, the LA Castro. (HW)

On Saturday, we ate dinner at Universal Studios City Walk. (ZR) We then closed the Sabbath by having a Havdalah service outside in the courtyard of our Ramada hotel. As we gathered in a circle, we spoke about and shared our memories of the trip. (HW)

On Sunday we went to Universal Studios Hollywood. It was really interesting. We all went on The Mummy roller coaster and the Jurassic Park water ride. I had never before been on the Mummy ride, and while on it, I overcame my fear of roller coasters. This was largely due to my awareness that the omnipotent Greg at my side would never allow harm to come to me.* At the Waterworld stunt show, those of us who were sitting in the front row got soaked.

The most fun I personally had was at Universal Studios. I think that everyone had a really good time on the trip. I also had a great time hanging out with everyone. (AK)

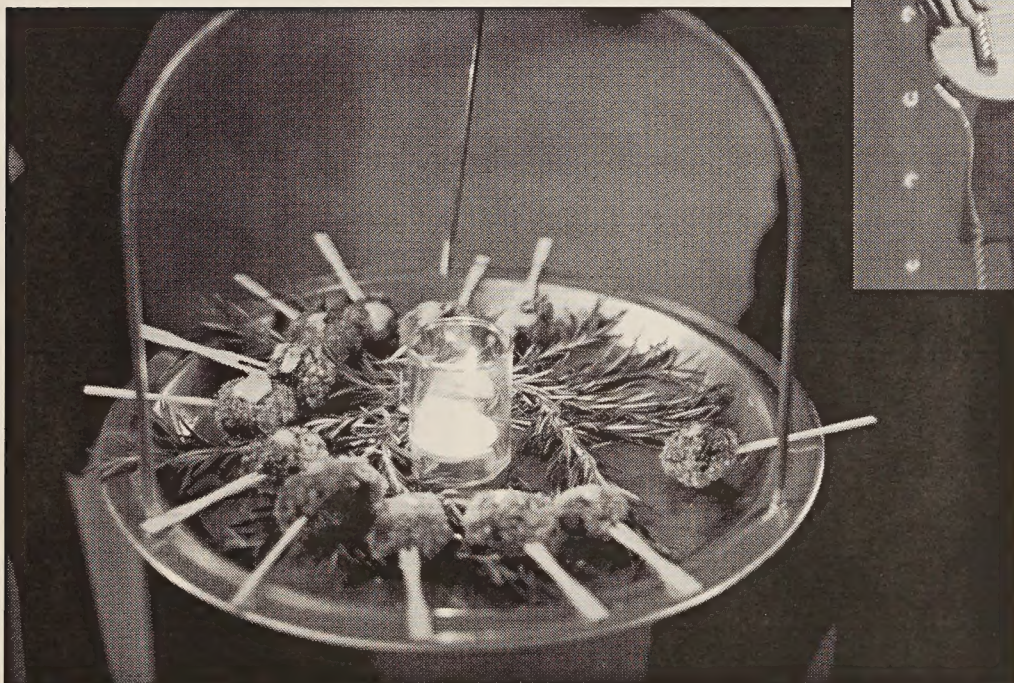
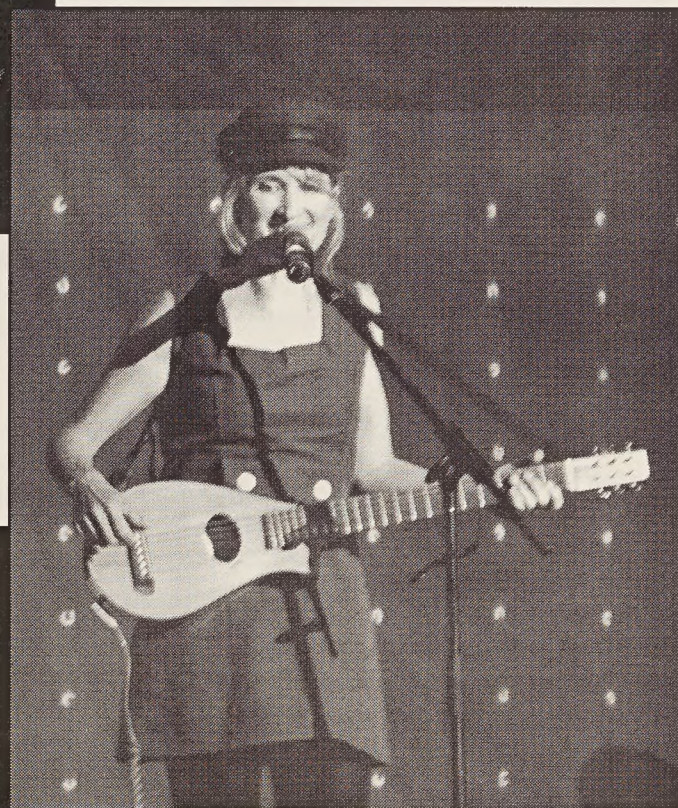
As the afternoon progressed, we returned our rental cars and eventually got onto a plane for San Francisco. This B'nei Mitzvah class trip to LA was a bonding experience. It ranged from spiritual and educational time at Friday and Saturday Shabbat and Havdallah services, to relaxed time on Venice Beach, and even some extra sightseeing as we were confidently escorted by Rabbi Angel and Greg, with their calculated, expert navigational skills leading us confidently every step of the way of this spiritual quest through Los Angeles. (ZR)

*It is possible that this sentence is entirely fabricated by the editor.

CSZ AT 30!

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER





DONATIONS

30TH ANNIVERSARY DONATION

Allan Berenstein.
Mark Bernstein.
Susan Cole.
Karen Erlichman.
Bonnie Fenton.
Louis Haas.
Judith Heiman.
Jean & Norm Katz.
Rose Katz.
Debbie Levy.
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in honor of Amichai Lau-Lavie on the occasion of Dennis Ybarra's bar mitzvah.

Marvin & Janet Schwab

in honor of Amichai Lau-Lavie on the occasion of Dennis Ybarra's bar mitzvah.

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in memory of Ron Gertz.*

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in memory of his sister, Phyllis Litman.

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in memory of his grandfather, Max Radetsky.*

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in memory of his father, Benjamin Weiner & his mother, Yetta Weiner Marshall.
in appreciation of the many expressions of sympathy he has received from members of the Sha'ar Zahav community.

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in honor of Avraham Giannini.

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in honor of Daniel Chesir's 65th Birthday.
in honor of David Stein's 65th Birthday.

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in memory of Evelyn Chesir.

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in memory of Isabel Fishman.*
in memory of Norma Faini-Pick.*
in appreciation of Greg Lawrence and Shaun Hannan.*
in appreciation of Batya Kalis.*

Ellen Berger

in memory of her friend, Lenny Lew.

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in memory of Anna & Moshe Boorda.

Barbara Braasch.

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in memory of Yetta Weiner Marshall.
in memory of Jenny Tuzzolino.
in memory of his mother, Rosemary Tuzzolino.

Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman

in memory of Yetta Weiner Marshall.
in memory of Rosemary Tuzzolino.

Ilana Drummond & Sharon Dulberg

for purposes of "greening" the congregation.*

Stephanie Hannaford & Christine Witzel

in honor of Allen Berenstein.

Siva & Richard Heiman.

Ira Hirschfield & Tom Hansen

in honor of Jerry Rosenstein's 80th Birthday.

Alex Ingersoll & Martin Tannenbaum

in appreciation of Marianne Balin's thoughtful and dedicated leadership.
in appreciation of Irene Ogus' leadership in making their beautiful home.
a thank you to Julie Dorf for the outstanding birthday present to CSZ.
a thank you to Mark Reisbaum for the outstanding birthday present to CSZ.
in honor of Jerry Rosenstein's 80th birthday.
in honor of Shayna Prochovnick's bat mitzvah.
in honor of Hannah Pines-Schwartz's bat mitzvah.
in memory of Harold Fyne.*
in memory of June Raim Heitman.*
in memory of Ron Wilmot.*

Batya Kalis

in honor of Evan Blumensweig.
in honor of the Adult B'Nei Mitzvah class.
in honor of the 30th Anniversary.
in memory of Rose Jacobstein & Irene Kahn.

Bruce Katz.

Ron Lezell

in honor of Jerry Rosenstein's birthday.
in honor of Julie Dorf.
in memory of Roslyn Fuerman.
in honor of Mark Reisbaum.
in memory of his mother, Sophie Lezell.

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in memory of Harold Fyne.
in memory of Harold Pannor.

Susan Lubeck & Richard Weiner

in honor of Sophie Navarro's bat mitzvah.

Eileen Lynette & Charlene O'Neill

in honor of Julie Dorf and Mark Reisbaum for their fabulous job on the Chosen Party.

Jean MacLachlan

in memory of Mary Jane Greve & Jean McLean.

in memory of Avtar Kaur Greeley and
Bruce MacLachlan.

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in memory of Marian Stoller.

Carolyn Pines & Judy Schwartz

in memory of Carolyn's father,
Newcomb Pines.

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in memory of his father, Max Podgur.
in memory of his mother, Mollie Podgur.*
in honor of Allan Berenstein's new honor
(Fammy Award).*

Nina Raff & Annie Winters

in appreciation of Rabbi Angel's support
and generous spirit.
in loving memory of Cecile Winters.
in loving memory of Roy Peter Winters.
in loving memory of Lillian Raff.
in appreciation of the wonderful Sha'ar
Zahav community - Happy Birthday!.

Lillian Schaechner & Elaine Weissman

in memory of Lillian's mother,
Agnes K. Schaechner.

Jeffrey Sherman

in memory of his grandmother,
Reva Sherman.

Barbara & Myron Smith

in honor of Jerry Rosenstein's birthday.

Jonathon Thunderword.

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in memory of Susan's grandfather,
Jacob Bezman.
in memory of Susan's mother,
Ann Kohout.*

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGE 5767

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in memory of their daughter,
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in memory of his aunt, Roslyn Sinkoff.

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in honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th
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in memory of Rosemary Tuzzolino.
in memory of Jim Kurokawa.
in memory of Samuel Aron.
in memory of Jonathan's cousin,
Judy Davis.

in memory of Jonathan's father,

Rabbi Julius Funk

in honor of Wendy & Mitch Rosen in
appreciation of their hospitality.

Joseph Hample

in memory of Jim Kurokawa.

Alex Ingersoll & Martin Tannenbaum

in honor of Anna Schwartz-Cohen's
Bat Mitzvah.

Ron Lezell

in memory of Jim Kurokawa.

Mark Mackler & Wendell Choo

in memory of Jim Kurokawa.

Gustine Matt

in memory of Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk.

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in memory of his mother,
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in honor of Bill Stewart's bar mitzvah.
in honor of Dana Vinicoff's bat mitzvah.
in appreciation of Rabbi Camille Angel,
for her guidance, encouragement and
friendship.*

Helen Cohen & Mark Lipman

in honor of Anna's bat mitzvah.*

Donald Fischer.

Alan Foss.

Rena Frantz & Ora Prochovnick

in memory of Marian Stoller.

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in memory of Marian Stoller.

Batya Kalis

in honor of Rabbi Angel.

Katrina Kuzniuk

in honor of the members and staff of
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.*

Jeffrey Lilly

in honor of Jeff Rubin.

Richard Meyerson

in memory of Marian Stoller.

Lisa Szer

in honor of CSZ's 30th Anniversary.

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in honor of Lydia Radovich Zinn.
in honor of Rabbi Angel.

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in honor of Ilana Bernstein, Sophie's
B'Nei Mitzvah mentor.
in honor of Sue Bojdak, Kathy's
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6/7

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by **Marianne Balin** in memory of her father, and grandfather of Anna and Nora Downs, Howard Balin.

13/14

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by **Joan Goldman** in honor of Shayna Prochovnick.

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by **Adam & Sarah Orman** in memory of Adam's grandfather, Sidney Greenspan.

27/28

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by **Jeffrey Lilly** in memory of his father, Clyde Lilly and his friend/mentor, Noric Taschian.

MAY

4/5

Bimah flowers & Friday Oneg generously sponsored by **The Va'ad (Executive Board)** in honor of "Bring your friend to Shabbat" and Shabbat Across America.

11/12

Bimah flowers, Friday Oneg and childcare generously sponsored by **The McHenry-**

Navarro Family in honor of Sophie Navarro's bat mitzvah.

18/19

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by **Katrina Kuzniuk** in memory of her mother, Pauline Kuzniuk.

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by

Allan Berenstein in honor of Ege Kozak and Gabby Volodarsky.

Friday Childcare generously sponsored by

Gabby Volodarsky & Ege Kozak in honor of their moms, Luda Volodarsky and Guher Erbil.

Saturday Kiddush generously sponsored by **Ann Bauman & Kelly Thiemann** in honor of their anniversary.

25/26

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by **Ellen Murland & Barbara Rinkoff** in honor of the bat mitzvah of Hannah Pines-Schwartz.

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by **Richard Meyerson** in memory of his father, Stanley Meyerson.

Childcare generously sponsored by **Ann Bauman & Kelly Thiemann** in honor of their anniversary.

Saturday Kiddush generously sponsored by **Steve Elman & Tom Holt** in honor of the bat mitzvah of Hannah Pines-Schwartz.

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NACHES

Tova Green on her new position as Zen Hospice Project's Volunteer Coordinator on the hospice ward at Laguna Honda Hospital. She ascends to this position after serving a year as a volunteer. Tova recently moved from Green Gulch Farm to San Francisco Zen Center and is happy to be living within walking distance from CSZ!

Dan Bellm for being awarded a July 2007 residency at the Yaddo Arts Colony in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Evan Kuluk, son of Ida Kuluk and Susan Spott, for being conferred for the degree of Juris Doctor at the University of California Hastings College of the Law on May 20, 2007.

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel for making Letty's List. Recently, *Newsweek* published a rating of the top 50 Rabbis in America based on the criteria of fame, media savvy, influence, and size of constituency. In response to this list, which was made up of 45 men and 5 women, Letty Cottin Pogrebin wrote a letter to the editor compiling "The 'Other Fifty' Top Rabbis in America." Letty's List was based on the criteria of spirituality wedded to activism, deeds of loving kindness, and the ability to communicate meaning and beauty in Jewish life. The list, which was listed alphabetically and without hierarchy, included none other than our very own, Rabbi Camille Shira Angel!

Leo Hill, one of our newest members, who just began his new job working with court documents at Lone Star. Mazel tov on all these unfolding transitions in your life Leo!

Rabbinic intern **Reuben Zellman** on copublishing a Torah Queeries essay for Jewish Mosaic, entitled "Created by the

Hand of Heaven: A Jewish Approach to Intersexuality."

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav for paving the way with its socially and environmentally responsible decision to purchase and consume organic fair trade certified Mirembekawomera, "Delicious Peace" coffee. To learn more about this interfaith Ugandan cooperative, visit their website at www.mirembekawomera.com.

Music in the Mishkan volunteers **Barbara Braasch**, who prepared a beautiful wine and cheese reception, and **Mike Klayman**, who baked an incredible homemade rye bread and a lemon-poppyseed cake for the reception.

Judy Schwartz, Laureen Kim, Alan Michels, Ellen Press, Daniel Najjar, Lydia Zinn, Dennis Ybarra, Jim Acerra, Sara Haber, Beth Sousa, and Lisa Szer for their volunteering and hard work to make Friday's Bring a Friend to CSZ a huge success! And thank you to everyone who brought a friend to CSZ – this event would not have had the energy that it did were it not for you!

Sophie Navarro on the occasion of her becoming a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 12.

Andrea Guerra on the recent mentioning of her artwork in the May 13 *Sunday Chronicle*. Both Andrea, recognized as a "local artist," and two of her pieces were in a feature piece on the home of local designer Samuel Lewis, who had bought two of Andrea's pieces several years back.

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel, who is one of this year's recipients of the prestigious Israel in our Hearts Award, which acknowledges her outstanding dedication and commitment to Israel and her strengthening Israel/Bay Area relations. She received this award at Israel in

the Gardens on June 3.

Gabby Volodarsky and Ege Kozak on their getting married on May 20. May you both share many years together filled with love and happiness.

Julie Dorf and Mark Reisbaum for coordinating our 30th Anniversary Gala, which was a delightful experience to all those in attendance. Thank you also to the following people on their outstanding volunteer service: Nancy Meyers, ad solicitor and general support; Jeffrey Whitten, designer; Linc King, stage manager; Cheryl Mazak, photographer; Lindasusan Ulrich, assistant stage manager; Lydia Zinn, dresser; Diane Snyder, dresser; Lawrence Hellman, flow manager; Jenni Olson, press and driver; Robert Bernardo, press; Jim Frazin, registration; Tova Green, registration; Stefan Lynch, registration; Simcha Greenspan, registration; Judith Cohen, registration; Howard Steiermann, registration; Hershey Hirschkop, driver; Lisa Szer, driver; Sara Haber, greeter; Ora Prochovnick, greeter; Judy Schwartz, greeter; Joseph Ramirez-Forcier, hospitality; Heather Gold, video; and Amy Schustack. Our 30th anniversary celebration would not have been as fabulous as it was, were it not for you! Thank you J.

Kelley Clements, Bill Stewart, Dana Vinicoff, and Dennis Ybarra, on reaching the auspicious milestone of becoming B'nei Mitzvah while in their adulthood, on May 25.

Hannah Pines-Schwartz on the occasion of her becoming a Bat Mitzvah on May 26.

Keep the Naches coming!

Send good news to Greg Lawrence at greg@shaarzahav.org

RABBI ANGEL AROUND TOWN (AND BEYOND...)

Spearheaded a pilot SFOP Justice Seder here at CSZ with members from Providence Baptist Church, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Congregation Emanu-El, and Mission Dolores.

Attended an SFOP Action on immigration reform at St. Peter's Cathedral.

Lead her 8th/9th grade Spiritual Quest class to Los Angeles to explore Shabbat at Beit Teshuvah (a center for substance abuse recovery) and the historic Wilshire Blvd. Temple. She also led them on fun excursions to Venice Beach and Universal Studios (see this issue's article for more details).

Attended the Women's Rabbinic Network Conference in Chicago and created a ritual to help celebrate the retirement of Rabbi Sally Priesand, the first American woman rabbi.

Attended National Center for Lesbian Rights 30th Anniversary Gala at Ft. Mason.

Attended Hebrew Union College's Sixth Ordination in Los Angeles where four queer students became ordained, including CSZ's former Director of Children's Education, Riqi Kosovske.

Participated in Horizons Foundation philanthropy workshop: Giving as a Spiritual Practice

Gave concluding teaching at Beit Sefer's Celebration of Learning.

Officiated at Gabby Volodarsky, Rabbi Angel's former assistant, and Ege Kozak's Wedding.

Represented CSZ at JCCSF's Tikkun Leil Shavuot.

Met for *J-The Jewish Weekly's* board meetings and luncheon.

cont. from page 1

CSZ member and Transgender Law Center Attorney Ben Lunine led a session on trans activism, law and civil rights; and Max Strassfeld and Reuben Zellman facilitated text study of intersex/gender-queer figures in the Tosefta. Participants explored gender through art by making fabulous kites with CSZ member Barbara Cymrot; Alexis Rivera and Stephanie Brill led workshops especially for teens and for parents; Maggid Jhos Singer of the Coastside Jewish Community led a study session focusing on the first verse of the Torah, unity and duality, and gematria. "How to Be a Fabulous Trans Ally" was presented by Sam Davis and the Spectrum/United Genders Speakers' Bureaus; and attendees viewed short films documenting diverse transgender experiences.

Transgender Celebration Shabbat ended with nearly 20 attendees linking arms for Havdalah to close Shabbat.

A big *mazel tov* is due to all of our workshop and service leaders, as well

as to the many volunteers who made it possible for CSZ to put on such a multifaceted Shabbaton and host so many people. In particular, Lisa Szer headed up all of the food (which was no small task, since so many people came to CSZ Friday night that all of the food planned for Shabbos lunch the next day was eaten, and more food had to be procured quickly!) Robert Bernardo did much of the publicity for this Shabbaton, which no doubt brought many people through CSZ's doors to participate in this historic experience.

Trans Celebration Shabbat was a big hit and will be hard to top in the future. But what is life without a little challenge?

A big *kol ha-kavod* to the TIGQA Programming Committee and everyone who participated in making this a Shabbat to remember!

To get involved with the TIGQA Programming Committee, contact ogoun2000@yahoo.com or reuben@shaarzahav.org

ADULT EDUCATION

Hebrew Two at CSZ

Tuesdays 7:00-9:00 pm

July 3rd-August 14th

Have you always wanted to move ahead with your Hebrew? This class is for those who have a basic ability to read the alef-bet and vowels, and are ready to learn more. The cost is \$80 for CSZ members, \$110 for non-members. Register by calling or e-mailing Shaun in the office, (415) 861-6932, ext. 304; shaun@shaarzahav.org.

Questions about the class? Contact Reuben Zellman, our rabbinical intern, at extension 306, or reuben@shaarzahav.org.

Queering the Siddur

Rabbi Elliot Kukla

5 Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 pm

July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8

Rabbi Elliot Kukla will be part of our clergy team this summer. Come and learn about the history, philosophy and spiritual significance of the prayers in our siddur and examine them from a queer perspective. We will also discuss the need for composing new prayers to celebrate LGBTIQ lives and try our hand at writing some. No prior experience is necessary.

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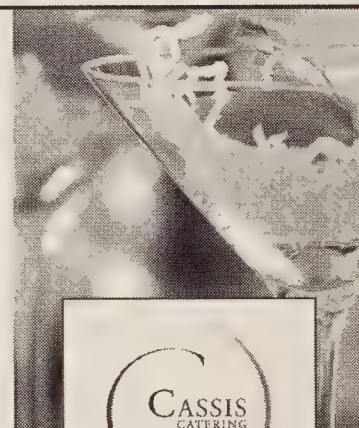
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Dorothy Querido and Judy Metcalf, on the death of their daughter, Kelly Querido.

James Carlson, on the death of his aunt, Rosemary Tuzzolino.

Rabbi Camille Angel, on the death of her cousin, John Clarke.

Ellen Berger, on the death of her friend, Lorraine Morris.

Michael Kurokawa, Paul Fishman, and Danny Fishman-Engel, on the death of Michael's father, Jim Kurokawa

Deborah Udin, on the death of her mother, Marian Stoler

Paul Cohen and Allan Gold, on the death of their friend, Stan Oldak

Tova Green, on the death of her hospice resident, Harriet Migdal

Alex Ingersoll, on the death of his dear friend, Miriam Mirvish

Irene Ogus, on the death of her friend, Terry Ryan

Gabby Volodarsky and Ege Kozak, on the death of Ege's grandmother, Hatite Erbil

Yahrzeits

JULY

- 1 Rachel Mailman
- 4 Edwin Gabay
- 6 David Custead
- 9 Alexander Konski
- 17 Steven P. Berman
- 25 Seth Miller
- 30 Phillip Resnick

AUGUST

- 2 David Kotch
- 4 Jordan Berger
- 5 Ernie Weinstein
- 7 Mark Landsberger
- 16 Peter Rosenfeld
- 18 Elliot Schneck
- 23 Bill Schlichter
- 26 Jay Platt
- 28 Jay Feinstein

WE REMEMBER THEM

At the rising of the sun and
at its going down
We remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and
the chill of winter
We remember them.

At the opening of the buds and
in the rebirth of spring
We remember them.

At the blueness of the skies and
in the warmth of summer
We remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and
in the beauty of autumn
We remember them.

At the beginning of the year and
when it ends
We remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live;
for they are now a part of us,
as we remember them.

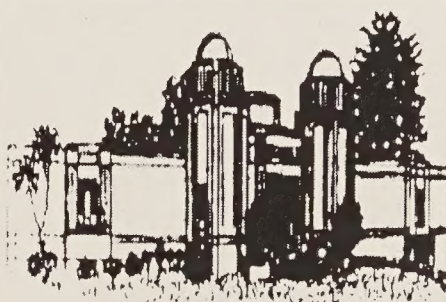
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*Rabbi Camille
Shira Angel*



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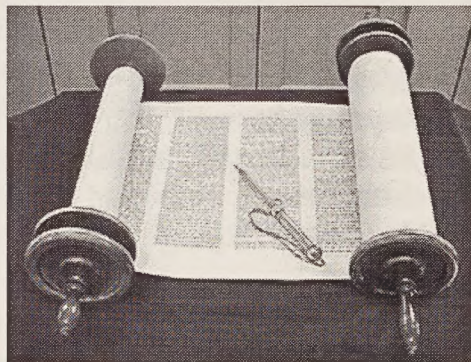
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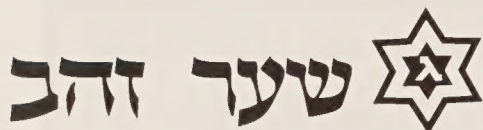
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JULY 2007

TAMMUZ/AV 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 15 Tammuz 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	2 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	3 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	4 Office Closed 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	5 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm SFOP Meeting	6 6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service 6:30 pm CSZ Anniversary Shabbat Dinner *	7 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
8 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	9 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	10 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	11 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	12 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	13 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	14 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
15 10:30 am Baby Chavurah at Dolores Park 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	16 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	17 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	18 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	19 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 6:30 pm Va'ad Meeting	20 6:30 pm Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	21 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am Tot Shabbat
22 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	23 6:30 pm Tisha B'Av Service	24 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	25 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	26 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	27 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	28 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
29 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	30 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	31 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	1 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	2 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	3 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	4 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
5 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	7 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	8 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	9 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	10 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	11 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
12 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	13 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	14 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	15 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	16 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	17 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	18 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
19 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	20 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	21 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	22 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	23 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	24 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	25 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
26 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	27 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	28 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	29 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	30 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	31 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	1 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service

*8:15 pm
Shabbat Service/
Va'ad Installation

AUGUST 2007

AV/ELUL 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	17 Av 2 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	18 3 6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service 8:15 pm Shabbat Service	19 4 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
5 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	21 6 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	22 7 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	23 8 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	24 9 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	25 10 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	26 11 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
12 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	28 13 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	29 14 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm Hebrew II	30 15 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	1 Elul 16 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	2 17 6:30 pm Family Potluck 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	3 18 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service Tot Shabbat
19 10:30 am Baby Chavurah 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service Ma'ariv Service 4:00-7:00 pm Open House	5 20 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6 21 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	7 22 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	8 23 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	9 24 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	10 25 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
26 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	12 27 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	13 28 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	14 29 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	15 30 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	16 31 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	17